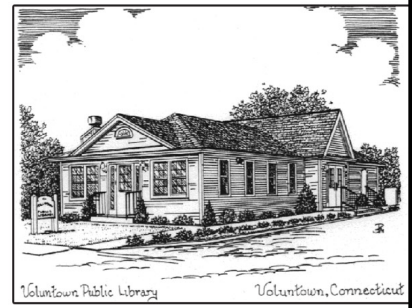


*Friends of the Voluntown Library*  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**FOCUS ON FRIENDS**

Volume 12, Issue 1—May-June, 2011



**Library Hours**

MONDAY AND THURSDAY, 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, 10:30 A.M.-7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY, 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

SATURDAY: 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday



An example of Spring Ikebana done at a program  
presented by Cheryl Thevenet  
at the Voluntown Public Library,  
April 12, 2011

Photo and flower arrangement by Sharon Geer.

*Dear FRIENDS of the Voluntown Public Library,*

As we start Volume 12, Issue 1, we want to extend our gratitude to the many advertisers who help support the publishing of this locally informative Newsletter. Our newest advertisers are **Lisa's Country Curls, Blanchard & Chamberland Insurance Agency, Buttonwood Farm and Candace Porter of Randall Realtors**. Welcome!

There are still a few openings for ads if anyone would like to advertise their business. \$100 for a 2"x2" ad, \$190 for a 4x4 ad or it can be pro-rated for a partial year. Contact Anne Olsen at 860-376-2370 for more information.

The Community Calendar holds many wonderful opportunities as the warmer weather slowly returns. Check it out and enjoy!

Our graphics consultant, Paula Jordan, will be undergoing a serious operation in May. We hope you will join us in wishing her well and a speedy recovery.

Until next time...

Diana Ingraham and Anne Olsen  
Co-editors, Focus on Friends  
Paula Jordan, Consultant

## From the Substitute Librarian's Desk:

Be sure to frequently check the library's website at [www.Voluntown.gov](http://www.Voluntown.gov) for programs, events and news. Library happenings can also be found on Facebook.

To celebrate **National Library Week**, April 11-17, the Friends of the Voluntown Library are selling library theme t-shirts. Hopefully, by the time you read this there will still be t-shirts available. During that week, the library hosted an Ikebana flower arranging class and National Library Snapshot Day on April 13 was participated in.

Another adult program, held in March and presented to a full house, was a lecture on "Civil War Artillery and Tactics". This very informative program done by three Civil War re-enactors from Voluntown, had a large display of battle scenarios and many implements and devices utilized by soldiers.

The **Book Club's** selection for May 14 is "*Women's Diaries of the Westward Journey*" by Lillian Schlissel. More than a quarter of a million Americans crossed the United States between 1840 and 1870, traveling West to claim free land in the Oregon and California territories. This book is a record of the hardships and grit of the women who accompanied their husbands on the Overland Trail. Book Club meetings are held at 7:00.

Perhaps you have read news articles about Governor Malloy's proposal to cut funding for the state's ILL (interlibrary loan) program. This is of great concern for library patrons who use this service. For the week of March 7-11, 2011, 79 percent of ILL participating libraries reported 45,871 items moving between Connecticut Libraries. If all participating libraries had reported, that would extrapolate to over three million items delivered this year. If the cuts in this very active and important program alarm you, please contact your elected officials and make your concerns known. With many towns experiencing budget cuts, libraries cannot afford to purchase every book, magazine and item patrons want. It is imperative that we be allowed to share by using the ILL program.

Plans for **summer reading** are moving along well. This year's theme, "One World, Many Stories" will be organized for children and adults to learn about a different culture each week. Hispanic, Asian, Finnish, African and other cultures will be explored with stories, activities and crafts. Activities for families to do together along with library website links to games, craft suggestions, foreign language instruction and more will be offered.

There will be a Henna artist, a calligraphy class for grades six and up, a karate demonstration for all and Animal Embassy, which will delight everyone with a live animal show. We will also choose a charitable organization to support, so children can experience helping other children in impoverished nations.

Readers will receive weekly prizes for keeping a log of their reading and have many opportunities to win raffle prizes at the end of the summer. In June, summer reading schedules will be available at the library, as well as distributed to all Voluntown Elementary School students. Another focus of the summer reading program will be learning about recycling; many crafts will incorporate recycled items. The library needs the following items, your help is appreciated.

- Cardboard tubes from wrapping paper and paper towels
- Round plastic lids and covers of all sizes
- Old jeans – adult sizes preferred for the maximum amount of fabric
- Styrofoam containers – the flat type meat come in, please wash thoroughly
- Dried beans – all and colors types acrylic yarn – leftovers from needlework projects
- Oatmeal containers with lids

For children and adults who want to have easy access to quality reading lists, go to the American Library Association's website: [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org) Look under the DIVISIONS tab for ALSC (Association for Library Service to Children and YALSA (Young Adult Library Services Association). There you will find recommended booklists and award winning books. There's also [www.ilovelibraries.com](http://www.ilovelibraries.com), with booklists for all ages and interests along with plenty of other interesting information and answers to many questions.

For more fun, watch two short videos on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) In the search box type "Dewey Decimal Library Rap" or "Library Rap", written and acted by high school students and entered in the Connecticut Film Festival.

Cathy Rubin substituting for Deb Fleet

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY

**YOUNG WRITERS-** First Tuesday of the month from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Dates are May 3 and June 7.

**ADULT WRITERS GROUP-**Fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:15 p.m. Dates are May 24 and June 28.

**STORY TIME:** Alternate Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m., ages two and up. Program is limited to twelve children.

The winter session began on January 25, 2011 and will continue through May

Remaining dates are May 3 and 17.

**KNITTING AND CROCHET:** Third Tuesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. on May 17.

**BOOK CLUB-** Third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Call the library for the current selection or to join.

**Call 860-376-0485 to register for programs.**

## **Friends of the Voluntown Library Book Sale** May 19 & 20, 2011, inside the Library.

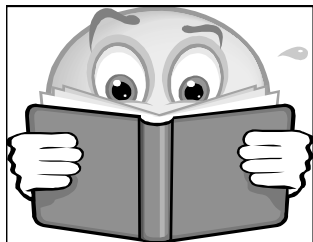


### **Voluntown Library will be closed the following holidays:**

- ~~Monday, May 30, 2011 (Memorial Day)
- ~~Monday, July 4, 2011 (Independence Day)
- ~~Monday, September 5, 2011 (Labor Day)
- ~~Monday, October 10, 2011 (Columbus Day)

### **LIBRARY TIP #90: LEARN ABOUT TECHNOLOGY**





## **NEW BOOKS AT THE LIBRARY**

### **Fiction:**

Saturday Big Tent Wedding Party—Alexander McCall Smith  
 Love Over Scotland—Alexander McCall Smith  
 I'll Walk Alone—Mary Higgins Clark  
 Espresso Tales—Alexander McCall Smith  
 44 Scotland Street—Alexander McCall Smith  
 I'll Never Walk Alone—Mary Higgins Clark  
 The Matchmaker of Kenmare—Frank Delaney  
 Silver Boat—Luanne Rice  
 Toys—James Patterson  
 100 Names for Love—Diane Ackerman  
 5<sup>th</sup> Witness—Michael Connelly  
 Lipstick in Afghanistan—Roberta Gately  
 Now You See Her—Joey Fielding  
 The Paris Wife—Paula McLain  
 44 Charles Street—Danielle Steele  
 The Jungle—Clive Cussler  
 The Goodbye Quilt—Susan Wiggs  
 Land of Painted Caves—Jean Auel  
 The Union Quilters—Jennifer Chiaverini  
 Madame Tussaud: a novel of the French Revolution—Michelle Moran  
 Think Twice—Lisa Scottoline  
 World According to Bertie—Alexander McCall Smith  
 Family Affair—Debbie Macomber  
 Sing You Home—Jodi Picoult

### **Young Adult/Juvenile-Fiction & Non-fiction**

Red Riding Hood—Sarah Blakely-Cartwright  
 World Without Heroes—Brandon Mull  
 I am number 4—Pittacus Lore  
 Scaredy Squirrel at Night—Melanie Watts  
 Scaredy Squirrel at the Beach—Melanie Watts  
 Viola in the spotlight—Adrianna Trigiani  
 Dragonbreath—Ursula Vernon  
 Lair of the Bat Monster—Ursula Vernon  
 Attack of the Ninja Frogs—Ursula Vernon  
 Bless this mouse—Lois Lowry  
 No Passengers Beyond this Point—Gennifer Choldenko  
 Pompeii: Buried Alive—Edith Kunhardt

### **Non-Fiction:**

Backyard Beekeepers—Kim Flottum  
 Pioneer Woman: Black Heels to Tractor Wheels—  
 Ree Drummond  
 Pioneer Woman Cooks—Ree Drummond  
 Waiting for Superman—Karl Weber  
 Widow's Story—Joyce Carol Oates  
 Cinderella Ate My Daughter—Peggy Orenstein  
 Complete Kitchen Garden—Ellen Ecker Ogden  
 Getting to Heaven: departing instructions—Don Piper  
 Heaven is for Real—Todd Bruno  
 Tomorrow's Garden Design and Inspiration—  
 Stephen Orr  
 Cowl Girls: the neck's big thing to knit—  
 Cathy Caron  
 Weight Watcher's New Complete Cookbook—  
 Weight Watchers  
 1861: The Civil War Awakening—Adam Goodheart

### **New to our DVD Collection**

The Black Swan  
 Tangled  
 Secretariat  
 The Tourist  
 How do you know?  
 The Fighter  
 Tinkerbell  
 Tinkerbell and the Great Fairy Rescue  
 Tinkerbell and the Lost Treasure



Greg Webster, Heidi Webster & R. James Thevenet,  
presenters of the program  
Civil War: Artillery & Tactics  
Held March 29, 2011  
at the Voluntown Public Library.  
Only one of the many programs  
available at your local library.



## **Memorial Day** **Let Us Always Remember**

### The Meaning of the Flag-Draped Coffin

Here is how to understand the flag that is laid upon the coffin and surrendered to so many widows and widowers.

- The 21-gun salute stands for the sum of the numbers in the year 1776.
- The Honor Guard pays meticulous attention to correctly folding the American flag 13 times, but not to symbolize the original 13 colonies.
- The first fold of the flag is a symbol of life.
- The second fold is a symbol of the belief in eternal life.
- The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing the ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of the country to attain peace throughout the world.
- The fourth fold represents the weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in time of war for His divine guidance.
- The fifth fold is a tribute to the country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong."
- The sixth fold is for where people's hearts lie. It is with their heart that they pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and the Republic for which it stand, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.
- The seventh fold is a tribute to its Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that they protect their country and their flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of their republic.
- The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day/
- The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood, and Mothers. For it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.
- The tenth fold is a tribute to the Father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of their country since they were first born.
- The eleventh fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in the Hebrews eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
- The twelfth fold represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in the Christian eyes, God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- The thirteenth fold, or when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding them of their nation's motto, "In God We Trust".

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the Sailors and Marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for them the rights, privileges and freedoms they enjoy today.

There are some traditions and ways of doing things that have deep meaning. In the future, you'll see flags folded and now you will know why.

## From the Selectmen's Office

A reminder that the Town's **Annual Budget Meeting** will take place at 7:00 p.m. on May 12, 2011 at the Elementary School.

Last year's Mil Value was \$224,279. This year, due to Revaluation, it decreased to \$196,302. To keep the budget at the same spending level as last year, based on the new Mil value, the Mil rate would be 23.34. The Board is asking for an increase of .91 Mils which would bring the new rate to 24.25 Mils for Fiscal Year 2011/2012. Your actual tax will depend on the increase or decrease in your property value. Although the total increase shown in the proposed budget is 3.82 Mils, the actual increase in overall spending is .91 Mils.

Preparations are underway for the **Annual Memorial Day Parade** which will take place on Monday, May 30, 2011. I would like to thank the Fire Department and all the volunteers who make the parade a reality. Hope to see you there!

There are currently **open seats** for the following Town Boards and Commissions. If you have an interest in one of the seats, send a letter of interest to the Board of Selectmen.

Board of Education — 2 vacancies

Economic Development Commission — 2 regular vacancies, 1 alternate vacancy

Inland/Wetlands Commission — 1 alternate vacancy

Zoning Board of Appeals — 1 regular vacancy, 2 alternate vacancies

As always, I am available to address your questions or concerns. Please do not hesitate to call the Selectmen's office at 860-376-5880 and I will be glad to help you.

Ronald Millovitsch  
First Selectman

## Animal Control Officer — Flo Harman

Just a friendly reminder that everyone who has a dog **MUST** get them licensed in the month of JUNE every year. Let's all work together and get them done without warnings or tickets.

Also remember that it will soon be getting hot outside, so keep the water bowl cool and full.

Call with questions or problems and leave a message: 860-376-3656 .

## Notice From the Town of Voluntown Inland/Wetland Watercourses Commission

Sawmill Pond will be drawn down during the month of August 2011 to facilitate repairs to the Sawmill Pond Dam.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Joseph R. Theroux, Voluntown Wetlands Agent, at 860-376-6842/



## GENERATIONS

### FAMILY HEALTH CENTER IS BRINGING HEALTHCARE TO YOU!

Beginning April 7th, 2011, a medical provider will be on a Mobile Medical Unit, every other Thursday at the Town Hall parking lot between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

\*Need Routine care but do not have a doctor?

\*Are you uninsured or underinsured?

\*We see Children & Adults

\*Walk on for sick visits

\*Call ahead to schedule Immunizations.

\*For more information: Call (860) 885-1308

Join us and let our experienced staff meet your healthcare needs & assist you in screening and applying for other services.

## THE FRIENDS OF THE VOLUNTOWN LIBRARY

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- .. \$ 5.00 ANNUAL MEMBER PER PERSON
- .. \$ 10.00 ANNUAL MEMBER PER COUPLE OR FAMILY
- .. \$ 100.00 LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP
- .. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DONATION (*Thank you!!*)

Please make checks payable to "Friends of the Voluntown Library." Drop off during your next visit to the library or mail to: Friends of the Voluntown Library, PO Box 26, Voluntown, CT 06384

\_\_\_\_\_ I/we may be willing to help with Friends' programs or events.

Mark your calendar and please join us for one of our meetings the third Wednesday of April, June, September and October at 7:00 p.m. Help us determine how to support your Voluntown Public Library.

# Voluntown Elementary School

Dear Friends of the Voluntown Library:

We are proud to announce the names of students who attained honor roll status for the second marking period.

## Fourth Grade

### High Honors

Calla Millovitsch  
Alexandra Shotts

### Honors

Sydney Brewer  
Jamie Christy  
Emily Claspell  
Ariahna Cohen  
Scott Davidson  
Sequoia Doran

### Honors

Shayne Evans  
Julia Florence  
Hannah Girard  
Jenavie Iovino  
Kelly Kamienski  
Ashley LaFerriere

### Honors

Alyssa Milette  
Evan Mooney  
Ryan Owens  
Jenna Schwery  
Madison Stripling  
Georgia Woodcock

## Fifth Grade

### High honors

Katelyn VanLanen  
Juliet Wittwer  
Juliet Wittwer

### Honors

Logan Bridgham  
Krista Brisson  
Jessica Bryan  
Kelly Daigneault  
Alex Fitzpatrick  
Amber Gardiner

### Honors

Marshall Giroux  
Ryan Kornacki  
Hannah L'Etoile  
Mackenna Martinez  
Nathan McLallen  
Chelsea Northup

### Honors

Declan O'Donnell  
Kaitlyn Stripling  
Hayley Thompson  
Alyssa Welsh  
Spencer Whalen

## Sixth Grade

### High Honors

Gabrielle Christy  
Johnathan Florence

### High Honors

Emma Mandeville  
Devin Mitchell  
Alan Rondeau

### High Honors

Morgan Smith  
Elizabeth Wyland  
Eli Lachapelle

## Seventh Grade

### High Honors

Cassidy Martinez

### Honors

Peyton Marler

## Eighth Grade

### High Honors

Christopher Hartman  
Sydney Pepper  
Breanna Salter  
Megan Weir

### Honors

Heather Edwards  
Kendra Hazard

**Kindergarten Registration** is being held on May 18th and 19th, 2011. If you have not registered your child for kindergarten yet, please stop by the office for a registration packet.

**Preschool Registration** (ages 3 and 4) will take place on June 23rd and 24th, 2011. Please stop by the school between 9 a.m.–12:00 p.m. to fill out the registration paperwork if you are planning to register your child for the coming school year. Bring an original birth certificate and current shot record for registration. The 3-Year-Old Program has limited space—apply early!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers at Voluntown Elementary. We really appreciate all of the work you do throughout the course of the year!

Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Sincerely,  
Mary T. Chinigo



## After the Event...Voluntown Community Health Fair

A highly successful community health fair, sponsored by the Voluntown Board of Education and Voluntown Local Prevention Council, was held on April 1st in the school gymnasium. Over 35 vendors, representing a variety of health-related services, were present for this event. Attendees were able to participate in a number of screenings, including osteoporosis, blood pressure, vision, and skin damage. Representatives from Backus Hospital, Generations Family Health Center, Senior Resources, Thames Valley Council for Community Action, and many other service organizations were present. Total attendance was estimated to be between 550 and 600 persons.

A number of door prizes were awarded, including a \$125. gift certificate to Wal-Mart, won by Larry Wyland. Other door prizes included a month-long membership to Curves in Griswold; a massage, donated by ToriLynn LePage, L.M.T. and a Zumba DVD program. V.E.S students from grades 1 – 6 attended the fair and were able to interview the vendors leading to an understanding of the various careers represented. E.M.T.s and Firefighters from the Voluntown Volunteer Fire Department attended in full gear and demonstrated their trucks and equipment as shown below.



### NEWCOMERS

Gregory & Cecilia Fuimara  
 Timothy & Sarah Thompson  
 Lisa Mumford



## News from Aura Hall

Summer will be knocking on our door and so is the Aura 2011 Schedule. This season promises to be a fun, delicious and friendship-filled season for all. Everyone is welcome to Aura Events. We look forward to seeing you!

**Saturday, May 7—Annual Tori, 9:00-1:00 p.m.**

Saturday, May 28—Memorial Day Dance, 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, June 11—Annual Chicken Barbeque, 4:00-6:00 p.m.**

Saturday, June 25—Mid-Summer Celebration

**Saturday, July 16—FAHS/AURA Summer Picnic**

Sunday, August 14—Annual Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale, 8:00-11:00 a.m.

**Saturday, September 3—Labor Day Dance**

Saturday, September 10—Farmers' Market

**Saturday, October 1—Country Western Night**

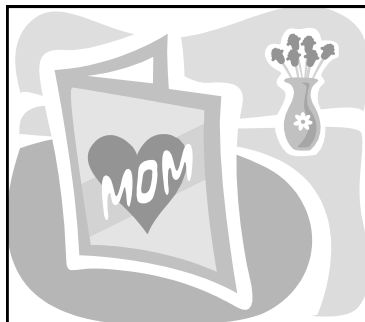
Saturday, October 28—Annual Adult Halloween Party

**Saturday, November 5—Craft and Surprise Sale**

Sunday, December 11—Annual Christmas Party, 2:00 p.m.

For more information please call: (860) 376-4833.

Lili Rafeldt and  
The "Aura Hall" Family



*Don't forget Mother's Day is  
Sunday, May 8, 2011!*



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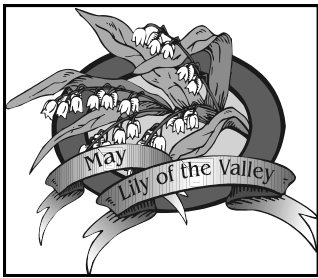
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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

2	Seniors Grange	Monthly meeting Monthly meeting	1:00 7:30
3	<b>Library</b> <b>Library</b>	Story Time Young Writers' Group	11:00 5:00-6:00
5	Town Hall	Generations Mobile Medical Unit	9:00-1:00
7	Elementary School Aura Hall	Annual Mother's Day Plant and Flower Sale Annual Tori	9:00-1:00 9:00-1:00
8		Mother's Day	
11	Seniors	Spirit of Boston dinner cruise trip	
12	Elementary School	Annual Budget Meeting	7:00
14	<b>Library</b> Grange	Book Club Roast Beef Supper	7:00 5:00-7:00
17	<b>Library</b> <b>Library</b>	Story Time Knitting and Crochet Group	11:00 6:15-7:30
18	Elementary School <b>Library</b>	Kindergarten Registration Book Club	7:00
19	<b>Library</b> Elementary School Town Hall	Friends of the Library Book Sale Kindergarten Registration Generations Mobile Medical Unit	9:00-1:00
20	<b>Library</b>	Friends of the Library Book Sale	
21	Grange St. Thomas Travelers	Spring Square Dance Bucks County Shrine Tour	7:30
22	Constitution Field	Drive to Survive Truck Show	8:00-4:00
24	<b>Library</b>	Adult Writers' Group	7:15
26	Living Word	Rev. Vard and Eileen Gainer from Pennsylvania	9:30
28	Aura Hall	Memorial Day Dance	7:00
30	Town wide <b>Library</b>	Annual Memorial Day Parade Closed for Memorial Day	

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR



1	Town Hall	Dog licensing begins	
2	Town Hall	Generations Mobile Medical Unit	9:00-1:00
6	Seniors Grange	Monthly meeting Monthly meeting	1:00 7:30
7	<b>Library</b>	Young Writers' Group	5:00-6:00
9	St. Tomas Travelers	Quebec City trip	
11	Aura Hall Grange	Annual Chicken Barbecue 117th Strawberry Supper	4:00-6:00
15	<b>Library</b>	Book Club Focus on Friends Newsletter Deadline	7:00
16	Town Hall Elementary School	Generations Mobile Medical Unit 8th Grade Graduation	9:00-1:00
19	Father's Day		
20	Elementary School	Last day of school	
22	Seniors	Bill Foster's Lobster Bake and Sand Sculptures trip	
23	Elementary School	Preschool Registration	9:00-12:00
24	Elementary School	Preschool Registration	9:00-12:00
25	Aura Hall	Mid-Summer Celebration	
28	<b>Library</b>	Adult Writers' Group	7:15
30	Town Hall	Generations Mobile Medical Unit	9:00-1:00

Summer Vacation




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## Scouting Around Town

# Cub Scouts Pack 74

We would like to thank all who supported our Annual Fisherman's Breakfast Fundraiser on April 16th. This year the Cub Scouts assisted in building and replacing the fisherman's breakfast sign that hangs in front of the firehouse for this event.

Also on April 16th, some of our Cub Scouts competed in a Cub mobile race at Camp Tadma in Bozrah.

In May the boys will do community service projects to clean up the Finn Beach area of Beach Pond and the Memorial Day Parade route.

Spring camping in Pachaug State Forest will include a flag burning ceremony. Anyone interested in retiring old flags can give them to a Cub Scout or contact our Committee Chairperson, Victoria at [vklements@yahoo.com](mailto:vklements@yahoo.com) or 860-564-6122.

During June camping the Cub Scouts will enjoy family fun, campfires, skits, singing songs, fishing, kickball, tug of war, hiking, rockets and many more fun activities.

Check out our Voluntown Pack 74 Cub Scouts Facebook Page for results, updates, and information.

Anyone interested in joining Cub Scouts , volunteering or for more information can contact Cubmaster Tom Smith or Committee Chairperson Victoria Clements.

Thank you to our Community for supporting your Pack 74 Cub Scouts.

+++++

## Troop 74 — Voluntown Boy Scouts

Troop 74 is very pleased to announce that the Town of Voluntown has **three Eagle Scout Recipients** this year, the highest rank awarded to any active Boy Scout. On April 30th a Court of Honor was held at the Voluntown Baptist Church to award **Joseph (Joey) Rubino, Tyler Rafeldt and Dillon Florence** their Eagle Scout Medals. These three Scouts have demonstrated leadership skills throughout their many years in Troop 74 and especially with their Eagle Scout projects.

Joey Rubino's project was to plant a garden around the town gazebo, providing a much more beautiful setting.

Tyler Rafeldt's project was to build a new barbecue pit at Aura Hall which will enable Aura Hall volunteers to cook many more chickens during any kind of weather.

Dillon Florence's project was to build a new horse bridge over a stream by Porter Pond. This will benefit both hikers and horse riders by supplying a continuous path to the Pachaug State Forest Blue Trail.

We are very proud of these three Scouts and are looking forward to having their Scouting guidance in the coming years.

Congratulations Joey, Tyler and Dillon!

Our younger Boy Scouts participated in this year's Mohegan District Klondike Derby the weekend of February 18-20 and followed the theme of the Alaskan Iditarod. It was certainly as cold as Alaska — possibly even colder! Our Scouts raced a Klondike sled up and down hills through snow and mud.

In addition, they competed with other Troops in outdoor activities such as orienteering, fire building and rescue. In the New Scouts category, our Troop successfully placed First in sled inspection and compass. They also received Second Place for arctic grouse and fire building. With all the competitions and activities that weekend, the most exciting part for these Scouts was to be able to sleep in tents in sub-freezing temperatures!

Our **Annual Mother's Day Plant and Flower Sale** will be **Saturday, May 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** in the Voluntown Elementary School parking lot. This is Troop 74's biggest fundraiser, enabling our Scouts to participate in Boy Scout Summer Camp and many other outdoor adventures

We thank you for your continued support.

## What's New With Troop 63022?

The Brownies and Daisys of Girl Scout Troop 63022 have had a busy year. With such a large group of Kindergarten to third grade girls, we decided to have the girls meet separately to work on their projects. We start each meeting as one large group, then break off into our two smaller groups. Mrs. MacPhail and Mrs. Allard work with the Brownies on their Try-It Badges, while Mrs. Martin takes the Daisys to work on their Daisy Petals. Then we come back together as one large group to do our closing ceremony together. This system has been working pretty well, but we couldn't make it happen without the dedicated support of a handful of parent volunteers who consistently lend a hand at our meetings. A special thank-you to the following parents/grandparents for all you do for Troop 63022: Alisa B., Robin B., Kara G., Diana N., and Kathy W.

In October, the girls participated in the annual nuts, candy, and magazine sale. In November, some of the girls in our troop spent an overnight at the Westfield Mall. Even though they didn't get much sleep, a great time was had by all. We also celebrated Juliette Lowe's birthday with several troops from our Service Unit.

In December, the girls made holiday cards and did some holiday caroling for the folks at the Volun-town Senior Housing Authority. Our troop also collaborated with Grace Community Center to work on a community service project. The girls opened their hearts (and closets) to those in need by collecting gently used toys and clothes. After filling Mrs. MacPhail's "Purple Truck", the donations were delivered to Grace Community Center where they graciously agreed to get the donations out to folks in need.

January marked the beginning of our annual Girl Scout Cookie sale. The girls learned about customer service and the importance of knowing your product. That's not too hard to do when your product is as delicious as Girl Scout Cookies! Also, in January some of the girls attended a "Disabilities Awareness" workshop with girls from the Nipmuck Service Unit.

In February, the Brownie and Daisy girls wrote letters and made cards for United States veterans who are in the hospital. The girls were sad to learn that so many of our nation's service men and women that are in the hospital don't get visitors or letters to help bring a little sunshine into their lives. Troop 63022 wants our brave veterans to know we care about them and cannot thank them enough for protecting our country. If you'd like to show your support, you can send a letter addressed to:

To any Sailor, Marine or Airman  
Ward 5-E  
National Naval Medical Center  
8901 Wisconsin Ave.  
Bethesda, MD 20889

or

To any Sailor, Marine or Airmen  
Ward 57  
Walter Reed Army Medical Center  
6900 Georgia Avenue  
NW Washington, DC 20307-5001

In March we worked on "Blinging Our Cookie Booth" with sequins, fake gems, glitter, and other jewels. A big thank you to Sunny's Market and The Tractor Supply Store for letting us set up our cookie booth in front of their stores. A great big "thank you" to everyone who supported our Troop by buying Girl Scout Cookies from us! Also, in March several girls from our troop joined forces with Mrs. Schwery's Junior Troop, for a "Camp-In" at Camp Pattagansett in East Lyme. The girls from both troops enjoyed working together to learn about Healthy Habits.

Several of our girls also met with Mrs. Wiese's Troop in April to work on friendship activities. They certainly are learning how to be a "sister to every Girl Scout"!



## Hello From Girl Scout Troop 63134!

We have been very busy the last few months. January officially kicked off the Cookie season which ended in March. We had a very successful season, selling over 2,400 boxes of cookies! Thanks goes to the local businesses who allowed us to "camp out" on their sidewalks!

With the profits from the cookie sale, we took a well-deserved break at the end of March and spent a weekend at a Girl Scout camp. Our focus for the weekend was Healthy Habits. The girls learned some interesting facts about the foods they eat and also learned that it is really easy to exercise daily.

In April, some of us went to the Boston Museum of Science for an "overnight". We spent the night with Girl Scout troops from Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut. The schedule kept us busy the entire time we were there and included learning about lightning, sound and exotic or wild animals. We also saw shows in the Omni Theater and the Planetarium.

Plans are in the works for more Girl Scout fun in May and June. In May we are planning to go roller skating, march in the Annual Memorial Day Parade and prepare for our end-of-the-year campout in June.

Along with the girls working toward completing badge requirements, I believe we have had a busy and successful year!

Vicki Schwery



## Drive to Survive Truck Show

Sunday, May 22, 2011

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Constitution Field

Food, music, games, baskets and much more!

Donation of \$5 requested.

Registration: \$20 for straight truck, \$25 for combination (truck/trailer)

First, Second and Third place trophies will be awarded in each class.

For more information contact Belinda at 860-376-8864 or [bwiese286@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bwiese286@sbcglobal.net)



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## **SENIOR CITIZEN HIGHLIGHTS**

On March 16th, a group of 31 went to the Newport Playhouse and Cabaret Restaurant. The food was fabulous and the play entertaining. Then on April 13th another group of 31 visited Boston, the JFK Library and Maggiano's Little Italy. Another great trip!

Meetings have been exciting as well. At the March meeting, the Plainfield Chorus sang and danced their way through an entire year. Then, at the April meeting, the Golden Glow Chorus from Colchester entertained and had several of our seniors up on the floor dancing. What talented groups of seniors!

Upcoming meeting entertainment will be Dick Breen, a vocalist and guitarist, in May and Belly Dancing by Marie in June. Thanks goes to our Entertainment Committee for finding these wonderful people.

Trip Coordinator Audrey Grenier has provided more information for the following trips:

May 11	The Sprit of Boston dinner cruise, \$69
June 22	Bill Foster's Lobster Bake and Sand Sculptures, \$62
July 6	Lighthouse Cruse and dinner, \$59 — only ten seats remain!
August 4	Music Theatre to see "Cabaret" followed by dinner at Hart's Turkey Farm, \$74
September 7	Martha's Vineyard, \$69

Seniors meet the first Monday of each month at 1:00 at the Fire House. If there is a Monday holiday, we meet the next day (Tuesday). Storms cancel meetings. Light refreshments are served and blood pressure screening is also available.

Anyone who lives in or owns property in Voluntown and is at least 55 years of age is welcome to join. If you have questions or want to sign up for a trip, call Audrey Grenier at

## **Focus on Friends News Deadlines**

<b><u>ISSUE</u></b>	<b><u>Article Deadline</u></b>	<b><u>Distribution Date</u></b>
July/August	June 15	July 1
September/October	August 15	September 1
November/December	October 15	November 1

## What's Up On the Hill?—Ekonk Community Grange

Spring has sprung across Ekonk Hill and everything is bustling! Farmers are preparing their fields, Betsy's Greenhouses are bursting and the Grange is thriving!

April 22nd was the last in a series of Chowder n' Clamcakes dinners. May 21st will be the last spring square dance at the Grange Hall. The dance begins at 7:30 and admission is \$5 for an evening of square and round dancing fun with caller, "Farmer Joe" LoPresti and his band, "The Country Friends".

May 14th has a **Roast Beef Supper** planned from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Adults \$12 for a perfectly delicious all-you-can-eat fest!

Congratulations to Ekonk youth Katrina Sebastian! Katrina is one of 104 High School Seniors to win the prestigious Horatio Alger Scholarship. She gets an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, DC in April where she and the other winners will participate in seminars and adventures. Each will also receive \$20,000 over their four years of college. Katrina ranks in the top five percent at Plainfield High School, has starred in High School plays each year, Honors Band and teaching music and voice after school to Sterling and Plainfield elementary student — free!

We are delighted to have ten young people working weekly on perfecting a marching drill. In July, the Ekonk Team will travel to Brunswick, Maine to compete against teams from other New England states and New York as well! Eight of the ten are Ekonk youth and the other two are Junior Grangers.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 11th, for our **117th Strawberry Supper** — an exceptionally palate-pleasing repast!

The date of Sunday, July 17th, has been set for our Membership Awards Luncheon. The following will be honored:

Robert P. Jordan, former Sterling First Selectman, 75-year Grange Membership Certificate; 65-year Member Seal to Past Voluntown First Selectman Willis Maynard, Barbara Stott and Celia Bennett; 55-year Membership Seal to Mary Bingham; 50-year Golden Sheaf Grange Membership Award to Luther Thurlow and his sister, Ethel "Dolly" Larkin, Lorna Champagne, my sister, Verna Cole and myself, Russell Gray, serving my fifth year as Sterling's First Selectman; 25-year Membership Certificate to my sister's daughter, Betsy Molodich and my daughter, Rebecca Gervais. During that afternoon, an impressive total of 625 years of Grange membership awards will be presented!

1976 National Grange Young Couple of the Year, Dennis and Joan Phelps, from Basom, NY will attend and assist in the presentations. Katrina Sebastian will entertain by singing, as will Dennis Phelps who was part of a Christian quartet that produced musical tapes and entertained throughout New York state.

Plan to stop by any first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. to see what the Grange is about. We have a lot of fun and it is easy to join!

Russell Gray

## Fire House Smoke

It's been relatively quiet for the Fire Department since the last newsletter, with March having the fewest calls ever. April, as of the 12<sup>th</sup>, has already seen more calls than March. The spring may be a busy one.

While the call volume has been low, we have been training hard. In February we did a joint ice rescue drill with the Oneco Fire Department and the Quinebaug Valley Dive Team. We also had our annual EMT refresher class with eleven members participating. Two of our newer members are in Firefighter I class and another new member is in an EMT class.

A winter chicken barbecue fundraiser in February and a steak supper in March were sellouts. We thank everyone for their support.

Brush fire season is upon us so be careful out there and be sure to buckle up. Have you changed the batteries in your smoke and CO detectors yet? If you haven't, now is the time. We have had lives saved by those detectors already this year. They can save yours too, but only if they're working.

If you are interested in becoming a firefighter or an EMT, stop by the firehouse any Monday night after 7:00. We are especially in need of people who are available for daytime calls.

Jody Grenier  
Fire Chief



## St. Thomas Travelers

St. Thomas Travelers will be offering the following trips for 2011:

May 21-22	Bucks County Shrine tour — Padre Pio and Our Lady of Czestochowa — \$159
June 9-12	Quebec City — passports are needed — \$585
July 23	Spirit of Boston — 2 1/2 hour tour of historic Boston harbor aboard a 600-passenger luxury cruiser — seaside luncheon and entertainment, time at Quincy Market — \$73
September 10	Divine Mercy Shrine at Stockbridge, MA — \$44
October 16-18	Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania — discover the Grand Canyon of PA, a natural wonder formed over six million years ago. Situated on 165,000 acres, view the Canyon's beauty on an unforgettable wagon ride. Enjoy a dinner cruise on the Susquehanna River aboard an historic paddle wheeler. Dine at a fabulous Victorian mansion. — \$419
November 5	Shopping getaway to Vanity Fair and Providence Place Mall — \$27

Everyone is invited to join us. For more information, contact Pat Gwiazda at 860-376-9952

## St. Thomas Parish

61 Preston City Road, P O Box 99 — 376-2293

Rev. Augustine Naduvilekoot

### **Weekend Masses:**

St. Thomas: Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

St. Anne: Sunday at 8:00 a.m.

**Weekday Masses:** Monday through Saturday at 8:00 a.m.  
except Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

**Holy Rosary** is recited after daily morning Mass, Saturday Vigil and Sunday Mass

**Adoration and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament** is held every First

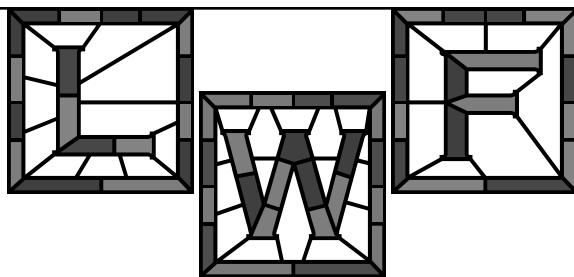
Friday of the month from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. with the Chaplet of Divine  
Mercy and Solemn Benediction.

**Baptisms** are celebrated on Sundays after the 10:30 Mass. Please call the  
Rectory in advance. Preparation class is required for all parents.

**Religious Education Classes** for children are held on Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for  
grades one through ten as per the schedule. Classes are under the direction of the pastor  
and director, Cathy Becotte—376-8665.

**Parish Registration:** Catholics moving into the parish should register as soon as possible. Also  
please inform us of any changes in address or phone number.

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pick up a bulletin each Sunday or check our website at [www.stthomasvoluntown.org](http://www.stthomasvoluntown.org).



## Living Word Fellowship

512 Beach Pond Road, P O Box 369, Voluntown, CT 06384 -- Pastor Kevin Wilson

### **SUNDAY Celebration Services 9:30 AM**

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### **Upcoming special events 9:30 AM**

Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup> - Rev. Vard & Eileen Gainor, from Pennsylvania - Everyone welcome!

Weekly Sermons available online at [www.livingwordfellowship.net](http://www.livingwordfellowship.net)

**Church phone: 860-376-6577**

Check out our website or find us on Facebook!

Home group info also available online.

## Voluntown Baptist Church

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Voluntown, CT 06384

(860) 376-9485

Email – [ybcsecretary@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ybcsecretary@sbcglobal.net)

### SUNDAY

**Worship Service** is held each week at 9:00am with coffee and fellowship immediately following the service. Supervised childcare is available during the service.

**Children's Sunday School** is available each week following the service 10:30am-11:30am. \*

**Adult Sunday School** is available each week following the service 10:30am-11:30am. \*

### TUESDAY

**Women's Group** holds their meeting each 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. You do not have to be an officer to attend these meetings!

### WEDNESDAY

**Adult Choir** is held at 6:30pm in the sanctuary. New members always welcome!

### THURSDAY

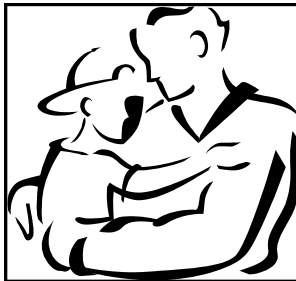
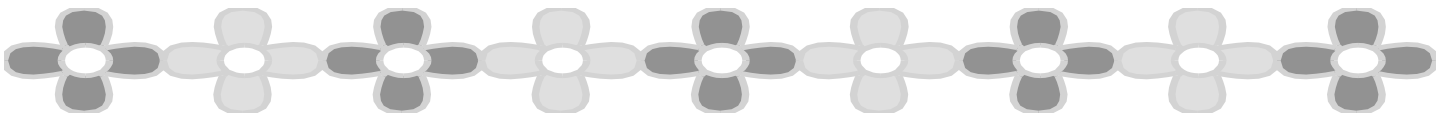
**T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** holds meetings each week at 5:45pm. This is open to anyone interested in joining.

### FRIDAY

**Children's Playgroup** meets each week at 9:30am. Come enjoy adult conversation while the children enjoy playtime with peers. All ages of children welcome!

\*There are various Bible Studies held throughout the week as well as Sunday School classes. Contact the church office for a complete list of these studies and the times they meet. Everyone is always invited and welcome to join!!

**Summer Vacation Bible School July 25 – July 29, 2011. Everyone is invited to join us for a great week of fun, and fellowship! Call the church office for details.**



*Remember Dad on Father's Day  
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